soon after the claims are decreed by the Tribunal. However, ex-gratia amounting to Rs. 22.90 lakhs has been paid to next of kin of the victims of the accident to take care of their immediate needs.

Stoppage to Motihari Muzaffarpur Intercity Express

1812. SHRI VI JAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the local population are demanding the stoppage of Motihari-Muzaffarpur Intercity Express at Kanti Railway Station in Bihar; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Some representations were received for provision of stoppage of trains at Kanti Railway station and these were examined. However, stoppage of additional trains at Kanti has not been found commercially viable, at present.

Purchase of Substandard Rail Tracks

†1813. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news-item published at page 10 of the Rashtriya Sahara dated the 26th December, 2002 under the caption 'Aksar hydrogen ki adhik matra se tutati hain rail patriyan';

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railway Diploma Engineers' Association has also blamed for the purchase of low quality railway tracks;

(c) if so, the Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) what steps Government are taking to ensure that high quality tracks are purchased in future?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.